

REMARKS

Claims 92-93 and 104-105 are pending in the present application.

The Examiner indicated in the Office Action that claims 92-93 and 104-105 were allowed. Applicant has cancelled claims 91, 94-95, 98-103, and 106-112 solely to further prosecution of the remaining claims which cover Applicant's commercially important products. Cancellation of the remaining claims is not to be interpreted as an acquiescence to the rejections of record. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiners rejections of claims 94-95, 98-102, and 106-112 for the reasons of record, and reserves the right to pursue any cancelled subject matter in a continuing application.

Remaining issues raised in the Office Action will be addressed in the order they were raised by the Examiner.

1. Applicant acknowledges the withdrawal of rejections and objections to previously canceled claims 96 and 97.
2. Applicant acknowledges the acceptance of the formal drawings filed March 24, 2003.
3. Item 7 on page 2 of the Office Action indicates that a portion of the Paper Copy of the Sequence Listing submitted on 2/28/02 (Paper No. 33) appears to be missing. The Examiner stated that a new CRF is not required.

Transmitted herewith is a copy of the "Sequence Listing" in paper form for the above-identified patent application as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.821(c) as requested by the Examiner. As required by 37 C.F.R. §1.821(f), Applicant's Agent hereby states that the content of the "Sequence Listing" in paper form and the computer readable form of the "Sequence Listing" previously submitted on February 28, 2002, are the same and, as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.821(g), also states that the submission includes no new matter.

Applicant asserts that the application as a whole is now in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.821-1.825.

4. Applicant acknowledges the withdrawal of the objection to claim 111.
5. Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's statement at item 9 of page 3 of the office action that "an antibody that is 'specifically reactive' versus an antibody that is 'specifically immunoreactive' (e.g., claims 91 and 92)" do not differ in scope. Applicant has cancelled claims 91 and 104, thereby obviating any potential double patenting issues.
6. Applicant acknowledges the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 95-97 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.
7. Applicants thank the Examiner for clearly stating her position regarding priority dates of the claimed subject matter.

Applicants respectfully assert that the antibodies as claimed have support in the '997 priority document filed December 17, 1992, for example at pages 22-25 for the reasons of record.

Applicants respectfully assert that the antibodies as claimed have support in the '915 priority document, filed November 18, 1993, for example at pages 24-29 for the reasons of record.

8. Applicant acknowledges the withdrawal of claims 91-95, 98-99, 101-110, and 112 under 35 USC 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Kamb (U.S. Pat. No. 6,090,578).
9. Applicant acknowledges the withdrawal of claims 91-95, 98-99, 101-110, and 112 under 35 USC 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Skolnick et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,624,819).
10. Claims 94-95, 98-102 and 106-112 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Xiong et al. (of record) in view of Busch et al. (of record).

Applicant asserts that the rejection has been obviated by the cancellation of claims 94-95, 98-102 and 106-112. Cancellation of the claims is not to be interpreted as an acquiescence to the rejection. Applicant asserts that the claims are novel in view of the prior art for the reasons of record and has canceled the claims solely to further prosecution of the allowed claims. Applicant

reserves the right to pursue any canceled subject matter in a future application and respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

11. Applicant acknowledges the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 96-97 under 35 USC 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable Kamb or Skolnick et al. in view of Owens et al. (of record).

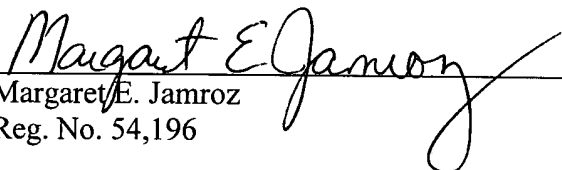
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully solicited. The Examiner may address any questions raised by this submission to the undersigned at 617-951-7000. Should an extension of time be required, Applicant hereby petitions for same and requests that the extension fee and any other fee required for timely consideration of this submission be charged to **Deposit Account No. 18-1945**.

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Respectfully Submitted,


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